



## 2011 Summer Reading

*Please read two books this summer. Do not choose books that you have already read. After reading the books, complete a Grade Level Project (see below) on one of the books and be prepared to write a short essay about the second book when you return to school in August.*



### **6th Grade Suggested Titles**

*Tuck Everlasting* - Natalie Babbitt  
*The Skin I'm In* - Sharon Flake  
*Money Hungry* - Sharon Flake  
*Begging For Change* - Sharon Flake  
*Souder* - William Armstrong  
*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* - Mark Twain  
*Lost and Found* - Anne Schraff



### **7th Grade Suggested Titles**

*Bad Boy* - Walter Dean Myers  
*The Battle of Jericho* - Sharon Draper  
*Cold Mountain* - Charles Frazier  
*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* - Mark Twain  
*Tangerine* - Edward Bloor  
*Old Yeller* - Fred Gipson  
*A Matter of Trust* - Anne Schraff



### **8th Grade Suggested Titles**

*Tears of a Tiger* - Sharon Draper  
*Forged By Fire* - Sharon Draper  
*The Old Man and the Sea* - Ernest Hemmingway  
*Call of the Wild* - Jack London  
*We Beat the Streets* - Sampson, Davis, Jenkins & Draper  
*Gifted Hands* - Ben Carson  
*Secrets in the Shadows* - Anne Schraff

## Grade Level Projects

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade -- Book of Artifacts**

Find **five (5)** things from the novel that are important to the story. Create an artifact for each of these things. An artifact is a symbol that represents something in the story. The artifacts should represent significant things in the novel and help you re-tell the main ideas in the story. For example, if you were reading *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, you could get a gold chocolate candy bar wrapper to represent how Charlie found his golden ticket in the candy bar wrapper. You may draw these artifacts, cut/paste from magazines or the internet, or find real "artifacts." Your book should include the following:

- Page 1- Title and Author of your Book; Your Name
- 1 page devoted to each artifact (Total of 5 Artifacts). Each page should include the artifact and at least one paragraph (8-10 sentences), explaining why the artifacts are important to the story.

This means that your book will be a total of 6 pages (including your title page).

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade -- Newspaper Activity

Create a 2 page newspaper devoted to your novel. Your newspaper will include the following:

- One 1-page “news” article about the main character and significant events in the story. Your news story should answer who, what, where, when, why, and how.
  - Who - Who is involved
  - What - What did they do? (What was the significant event in the story that the main character experienced?)
  - Where - Where did the events take place?
  - When - When did the events occur?
  - Why - Why did the events happen?
  - How - How did the main character solve the problem? How did the main character handle the events in the end?
- One 1-page “review” giving your opinion/critique of the book.
  - A review is a critique of the novel. It explains whether you liked or disliked the book and gives specific reasons why. Discuss the parts you really enjoyed or hated.
  - Discuss your feelings about the main character(s). Did you like/dislike him or her? How did you feel about the way they handled situations in the book?
  - Would you recommend this book? Why/Why not? Who would enjoy reading this book? (ex: A person who loves romance, action, and horror would be interested in reading the Twilight series.)

Your newspaper should look like a real newspaper. Look at several real newspapers (ex: Tallahassee Democrat, Capital Outlook) to get ideas on how your newspaper will look. It should have the following elements:

- Title of your newspaper
- Each story should have a headline (title)
- Byline - who wrote the article (by: John Doe)
- Pictures with captions for each story (Pictures are used to enhance the story by giving the reader a visual that shows what your article is about. Do not use a random picture that does not relate to your story.)

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade -- Organize Your Thoughts & Write a Book Review

Select a book to review, and then answer the following questions using complete sentences.

1. What is the book's title and who is the author?
2. Where and when does the book take place?
3. What is the genre (adventure, tragedy, mystery, comedy, etc.)?
4. Describe the main characters.
5. Summarize what the book is about in two sentences.
6. What is the theme, or main idea of the story? (Example: One theme of *Huckleberry Finn* is the struggle between freedom and slavery.)
7. What kind of person might enjoy reading this book? (Example: If you love coming-of-age novels, then you won't want to miss *To Kill a Mockingbird*.)
8. What is your overall impression of the book?
9. How does the title connect to the book?
10. If you could tell a character something that would help him or her, what would you tell them and why?
11. Which character are you most like and why?
12. Select three key events and show how each provided insight into a character's personality.

Use your responses to the questions above as an outline to write your review. Then, decide on a central point, such as: ***This novel shows how friendship helps teens cope with hardship.*** Use your central point for the first paragraph.